

In 2016, JFK's oncology program was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award by the American College of Surgeons.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of New Jersey's Sixth Congressional District and the state of New Jersey, I recognize JFK Medical Center and its dedicated staff for 50 years of exemplary service, cutting-edge innovation, and industry-leading quality of care.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT  
OF JUDGE FRED A. STINE

**HON. THOMAS MASSIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2017*

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the retirement of Judge Fred A. Stine, the Chief Circuit Court Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit in Campbell County, Kentucky.

Judge Stine graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1973, and received his J.D. from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University in 1978. He then worked in private practice for two years, until his appointment as the Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky. He served as an AUSA until October of 2004, when he was appointed to the Circuit Court.

Judge Stine has honorably served the Commonwealth as Circuit Court Judge since 2005. His many awards and recognitions include a Distinguished Service Recognition from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a "Special Recognition for Victims' Rights" from the U.S. Department of Justice, the "U.S. Department of Justice Commendation" from the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee, a "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the National Black Law Students Association at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University, and an award for "Outstanding Contributions to KY Law-Related Education" from the Kentucky Court of Justice.

Throughout his career, and despite his busy case docket, Judge Stine selflessly gave of his time to serve his community. For example, he served as a volunteer judge for the Northern Kentucky Teen Court, and for the Newport Central Catholic, Highlands High School, and Dixie Heights High School mock trial teams. He was also an active member of the Kentucky Bar Association and the Alumni Association Board of Governors of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Judge Stine is a true public servant who has served his state and nation well. On behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and all the citizens of the Fourth District, I am honored to wish Judge Stine the very best on his retirement. From all of us, we thank him.

RECOGNIZING AVDHOT BABA  
SHIVANDJI

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2017*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avdhoot Baba Shivandji, a man

who has dedicated his life to enriching the lives of others through sacred ancient Indian healing rituals. Also known as Babaji, he has deeply inspired many through his deep belief that each person comes into this world with vast potential. Through the innovative ancient integrative process of Shiv Yog Cosmic Medicine and Shiv Yog Cosmic Farming, individuals learn how to access their vast spiritual potential to create their own destinies. He has shared this knowledge through media and live conferences to millions of citizens from both our country and the world. In addition to educating others on his Indian healing practices, Shivandji teaches English on Indian television. Avdhoot Baba Shivandji is truly a selfless person, always looking to help others, and for that I commend him.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW CONNERY'S  
SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMOCRAT  
COALITION

**HON. JAMES A. HIMES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2017*

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Andrew Connery for his many contributions to the New Democrat Coalition. Next month, Andrew will be leaving the New Democrat Coalition to attend law school.

The New Democrat Coalition, which I have the honor to Chair, is made up of 61 forward-thinking Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives who are committed to pro-economic growth, pro-innovation, and fiscally responsible policies. New Democrats are a solutions oriented coalition seeking to bridge the gap between left and right by challenging outmoded partisan approaches to governing.

Andrew joined the New Dem staff as the Policy & Member Services Aide in February 2015. Prior to joining the New Dem staff, Andrew was a legislative assistant for former New Democrat Coalition Member Rep. Joe Garcia of Florida. In recognition for his hard work, he was promoted to Senior Policy Advisor in January 2016 and Policy Director in June 2017.

Originally serving former New Democrat Coalition Chair Ron Kind, Andrew has been a trusted advisor to me and many Members of the Coalition. Over his tenure, the New Democrat Coalition has been active on many issues of national importance that have benefitted directly from Andrew's policy knowledge and expertise. These include working on the development of the American Prosperity Agenda, building support for President Obama's trade agenda, developing a tough and smart national security agenda, advocating for a bipartisan deal on tax reform and infrastructure, helping craft a path forward on fixing the Affordable Care Act, and working on several other policy issues through the New Democrat Coalition's task forces. Andrew also served as a key advisor for New Dem Members and their staffs working with them to develop individual policy priorities, counseling on floor votes, and advising on other matters.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the New Democrat Coalition, I thank Andrew.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR.  
KENNETH JOHNSTON

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kenneth Johnston for his years of service in the United States Army.

Mr. Johnston, a native of southwest Missouri, was born in 1925. He was only 19 years-old when he began his service in the military. His dedication led him to become a highly-decorated soldier over the years due to his bravery and selfless commitment to defending the lives of others.

Mr. Johnston fought bravely in the Battle of the Bulge and on various other fronts. In addition to this, Mr. Johnston was the second man to go through the gates of Dachau as allied forces liberated the Jewish people from the brutality of the Nazi camp. His gallantry led him to be awarded the Bronze Star for his service. In addition to this he earned a variety of other medals and served in three different countries in Europe.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Johnston's service to the U.S. military over the years and his astonishing achievements. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Johnston on his many years of service.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONNIE  
GATHERS

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2017*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronnie Gathers who recently announced his intention to retire as Director of Prince Georges County (Maryland) Parks and Recreation Department after thirty years of outstanding service.

A native of my hometown of Sumter County, South Carolina, Ronnie Gathers graduated from my alma mater South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education and Recreation. In addition to serving as Director with great distinction, he also developed and provided oversight of Prince Georges County Parks and Recreation Foundation.

Mr. Ronnie Gathers has provided tremendous leadership in direct operations for fourteen divisions comprised of Park Police, Park Planning, Capital Development, Management Services, Special Projects, Information Technology, Northern, Central and Southern Area Recreational Services and Maintenance, Special Needs Programs, Arts, Cultural Heritage, Natural and Historical Resource Management, Sports Management and Trades Maintenance Division. He has worked collaboratively with communities and elected officials to establish policy, provide public safety, acquire land, plan programs, develop facilities, amenities and deliver quality services.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gathers has done our shared home town and alma mater proud, and I ask that you and my colleagues join me in wishing him Godspeed on the occasion of his retirement.